

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, S. Nu. 2016, c. 13

ORDER RESPECTING SOCIAL DISTANCING AND GATHERINGS

WHEREAS:

- A. The Minister of Health has declared a Public Health Emergency in Nunavut effective March 20, 2020 to address the novel coronavirus COVID-19 pandemic, and this declaration has been renewed on April 3, 2020 and April 17, 2020;
- B. Pursuant to section 41(1) of the *Public Health Act* ("the Act") the Chief Public Health Officer may take certain actions, including issuing directions or orders for the purposes of protecting the public health and preventing, remedying or mitigating the effects of the public health emergency:

THEREFORE, the Chief Public Health Officer hereby orders the following:

- 1. The Order Restricting Mass Gatherings issued March 23, 2020 is rescinded and replaced by this Order.

Social Distancing

- 2. Pursuant to subsection 41(1)(g) of the Act:
 - a. All persons in Nunavut must maintain social distancing of two (2) metres wherever it is safe and practical to do so, except inside dwellings and between immediate family members.
 - b. Subject to specific closures or limitations as ordered by the Chief Public Health Officer, all not-for-profit and for-profit businesses and organizations operating or carrying on business in Nunavut may continue to operate but must implement social distancing of two (2) metres within these workplaces.
 - c. Subject to specific closures or limitations as ordered by the Chief Public Health Officer, any not-for-profit or for-profit business or organization carrying on business in Nunavut that cannot, due to its physical size, maintain the social distancing requirement set out in clause 2 (b) must

limit the number of customers or clients on its premises to no more than five (5) persons at a time.

- d. The five-person limit referred to in clause 2 (c) does not apply to businesses and organizations who can maintain social distancing requirements, including without limitation grocery stores, pharmacies, Canada Post Corporation post offices, fuel and motor vehicle service stations, and financial institutions.
- e. The social distancing requirements set out in clause 2 (b) and the five-person limit set out in clause 2 (c) do not apply to the following entities:
 - i. The Legislative Assembly, subject to the directions of the Speaker;
 - ii. Licensed Premises and Food Services Establishments subject to the Communicable Disease Order dated March 22, 2020;
 - iii. Institutions as defined by the *Public Health Act*;
 - iv. Hospitals and health centres designated under the *Hospital Insurance and Health and Social Services Administration Act* and the *Mental Health Act*;
 - v. Any Court operating essential services, subject to the directions of the Chief Justice of the applicable Court;
 - vi. Homeless shelters;
 - vii. Food banks;
 - viii. Home and community care programs operated by the Department of Health; and
 - ix. Workplaces where the employer has limited access to essential workers and implemented a remote-work program for non-essential workers.
- f. In addition and for greater clarity, the social distancing requirements set out in clause 2 (b) and the five-person limit set out in clause 2 (c) do not apply to motor vehicles and the following entities, organizations, and individuals:

- i. The Royal Canadian Mounted Police;
- ii. Canada Border Services Agency;
- iii. The Canadian Armed Forces;
- iv. Municipal Enforcement Officers;
- v. Other law enforcement officers appointed pursuant to a law of Nunavut or Canada;
- vi. Child Protection Workers when acting in the course of their duties;
- vii. Employees of the Nunavut Department of Justice Corrections Division and Correctional Service of Canada when acting in the course of their duties;
- viii. Municipal Fire and Emergency Services;
- ix. Emergency medical responders, including air ambulance (medevac) crews;
- x. Persons, including volunteers, engaged in search and rescue activities;
- xi. Electrical generation facilities operated by Qulliq Energy Corporation;
- xii. Municipal utilities such as water, wastewater, and stormwater;
- xiii. Maintenance of public utilities and government facilities;
- xiv. Essential maintenance of buildings, including dwellings;
- xv. Employees or contractors of the Nunavut Housing Corporation, a local Housing Authority, or a local Housing Society performing essential maintenance of public housing and staff housing;
- xvi. Road maintenance and repair;
- xvii. Airports;
- xviii. Solid waste collection and disposal;

- xix. Individuals engaged in delivery services for food, medicine, and other goods;
 - xx. Facilities operated by the Nunavut Liquor and Cannabis Commission.
- g. All providers of personal services as defined in the *Public Health Act* are prohibited from providing in-person services and may only provide virtual care services.
 - h. Dental practitioners licensed under the *Dental Profession Act* are prohibited from engaging in the practice of dentistry, except where it is necessary to perform an emergency dental procedure to protect the health and welfare of the patient.
 - i. Veterinary practitioners licensed under the *Veterinary Profession Act* may provide:
 - i. In-patient emergency or urgent care services; and
 - ii. Essential veterinary supply chain services, such as prescription refills and prescription diets.
 - j. Psychologists licensed under the *Psychologists Act* may provide in-person emergency or urgent care services and may provide virtual services within their scope of practice.
 - k. All persons shall maintain a distance of at least two (2) metres apart from any other person while in public, excepting members of their immediate household.

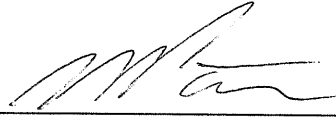
Gatherings

- 3. All public playgrounds, municipal parks, and day-use areas of territorial parks and territorial park reserves are closed.
- 4. All long-term care facilities, continuing care centres, and medical boarding homes are closed to visitors and movement of residents shall be restricted to the facilities and grounds, except as authorized by the Chief Public Health Officer.
- 5. All organized public gatherings of more than five (5) persons are prohibited.

6. For greater certainty, an organized public gathering as set out in clause 5 includes:
 - a. Concerts;
 - b. Community Feasts;
 - c. Organized Sporting Events;
 - d. Marriage ceremonies, funerals, and memorial services;
 - e. Meetings open to members of the general public; and
 - f. In-person religious, spiritual, or cultural assemblies.
7. All social gatherings, including social gatherings in private dwellings, shall be restricted to five (5) persons or fewer. A social gathering is any scheduled or informal assembly, and includes:
 - a. A party or celebration;
 - b. Play groups;
 - c. Club meetings;
 - d. Meals with individuals who do not reside together; and
 - e. Individuals gathering to play sports and games.
8. For greater certainty, a social gathering as set out in clause 7 does not include:
 - a. Members of a household residing together;
 - b. Essential employees and contractors of the organizations listed in clauses 2 (e) and (f) attending at their place of work;
 - c. Individuals with no fixed address temporarily residing at the dwelling of a family member;
 - d. Individuals entering a building, including a dwelling to perform essential maintenance services;
 - e. Religious, Cultural, or Spiritual officiants entering a dwelling or institution to provide religious, cultural, or spiritual care to residents;

- f. Delivery services for food, medicine, and other goods; and
 - g. Individuals travelling in a motor vehicle provided that the number of passengers does not exceed the number of seats in the vehicle.
- 9. The individuals listed in clauses 8 (d), (e), and (f) shall conduct themselves in a manner that will not expose others to infection or to take other precautions to prevent or limit the direct or indirect transmission of novel coronavirus COVID-19 to others, including wearing appropriate personal protective equipment.
- 10. Nothing in this Order shall affect parents and their children from exercising their custody and access rights, except:
 - a. As ordered by a court of competent jurisdiction; or
 - b. Where parent or the child is subject to a mandatory isolation order.
- 11. For greater certainty, parents and children exercising their custody and access rights is not a social gathering for the purposes of clause 7 of this Order.
- 12. Pursuant to subsection 41(1)(f) of the Act, members of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, municipal by-law enforcement officers, sheriffs appointed pursuant to the *Judicature Act*, the Chief Environmental Protection Officer and Inspectors appointed pursuant to the *Environmental Protection Act*, and Conservation Officers appointed pursuant to the *Wildlife Act* are authorized to implement this order, including entering any premises other than a dwelling without a warrant.
- 13. Pursuant to subsection 41(4) of the Act, the peace officers listed in paragraph 12 may not enter a dwelling without a warrant unless the occupant or person in charge of the dwelling consents.
- 14. Failure to comply with this Order may be considered a breach of this Order issued under the *Public Health Act* and may result in penalties under the Act.

This order is effective 11:59 pm Friday April 24, 2020 and remains in effect for the duration of the Public Health Emergency, unless otherwise rescinded.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Patterson', is positioned above a horizontal line.

Dr. Michael Patterson

Chief Public Health Officer